

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended): A method for cleaning and coating a glass substrate, the method comprising:

generating a plasma from a gas mixture comprising predominantly oxygen with at least one linear ion source, wherein the linear ion source generates a collimated beam of ions;

- subjecting at least one surface portion of a glass substrate optionally associated with a layer to said plasma to at least partly eliminate, by chemical reaction, the soiling matter possibly adsorbed or located on said surface portion; and

coating said at least one surface portion of the glass substrate subjected to the plasma by depositing at least one thin film multilayer without breaking vacuum, wherein said at least one thin film multilayer provides at least one of solar control, low emissivity, electromagnetic shielding, heating functionality, a hydrophobic properties property, a hydrophilic properties property, a photocatalytic properties property, a mirror properties property, an antireflection properties property, an electrochromic properties property, an electroluminescent properties property, and a photovoltaic properties property.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said depositing comprises a cathode sputtering process.

4. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the said depositing comprises a process based on CVD.

5. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising causing relative movement between the ion source and the substrate.

6. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the linear ion source is positioned with respect to the surface portion of the substrate in such a way that the average sputtering efficiency of the ionized species does not allow sputtering of said surface portion.

7. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the linear ion source is positioned within a plant of industrial size.

8. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the linear ion source generates a collimated beam of ions with an energy between 0.5 and 2.5 keV.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein two different surface portions of a substrate are cleaned simultaneously or successively, using at least said linear ion source.

Claims 11-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the cathode sputtering process is magnetically enhanced sputtering.

22. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the linear ion source generates a collimated beam of ions with an energy between 1 and 2 keV.

23. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the linear ion source generates a collimated beam of ions with an energy at about 1.5 keV.

Claims 24- 29 (Cancelled).